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CLAIMS

The invention claimed is:

1. A method of providing a credit card driven tuition incentive awards program, comprising the steps of:
  - a) paying out, by a credit card issuer, as per an agreement between the credit card issuer and a program vendor, a percentage of credit card sales at a predetermined period, to the program vendor; and
  - b) placing, by at least one of the credit card issuer and the program vendor, the percentage of credit card sales in insured bank accounts collecting set interest.
2. The method as defined in claim 1; further comprising the steps of:
  - c) applying, by a potential credit card holder, for a credit card, to the credit card issuer;
  - d) determining, by the credit card issuer, if the potential credit card holder qualifies for the credit card;
  - e) aborting, if answer to step e) is no; and
  - f) issuing, by the credit card issuer, the credit card, to the potential credit card holder so as to form a credit card holder, if answer to step e), and as a result thereof, the credit card holder automatically is approved for the credit card driven tuition incentive award

1 program, by virtue of affiliation of the credit card  
2 driven tuition incentive award program and the credit  
3 card issuer with each other.

4 3. The method as defined in claim 2; further comprising the step  
5 of:

6 g) paying, by the credit card holder, an annual fee, to at  
7 least one of the credit card issuer and the program  
8 vendor so as to form an account with a balance so as to  
9 form an account balance, if step f) is carried out.

10 4. The method as defined in claim 3; further comprising the steps  
11 of:

12 h) charging, by the credit card holder, an amount on the  
13 credit card so as to form an amount charged, if step g)  
14 is carried out; and

15 i) accumulating, by the at least one of the program vendor  
16 and the credit card issuer, a certain percentage of the  
17 amount charged on the credit card, by the credit card  
18 holder, if step h) is carried out.

19 5. The method as defined in claim 4; further comprising the step  
20 of:

21 j) converting, by the at least one of the program vendor and  
22 the credit card issuer, the certain percentage to points

1 so as to form points accumulated, if step i) is carried  
2 out.

3 6. The method as defined in claim 5; further comprising the step  
4 of:

5 k) checking, by the credit card holder, the account balance,  
6 by one of telephone and Internet, if step j) is carried  
7 out.

8 7. The method as defined in claim 6; further comprising the steps  
9 of:

10 l) determining, by the credit card holder, if the points  
11 accumulated are to be redeemed when the points  
12 accumulated reach a predetermined amount;

13 m) determining if the points accumulated has reached the  
14 predetermined amount, if answer to step l) is yes; and

15 n) returning to step h), if answer to step m) is no.

16 8. The method as defined in claim 7; further comprising the steps  
17 of:

18 o) converting, by the at least one of the program vendor and  
19 the credit card issuer, the points accumulated to dollars  
20 so as to form a dollar amount, if answer to step m) is  
21 yes; and

1 p) issuing, by the at least one of the program vendor and  
2 the credit card issuer, a check in the dollar amount, if  
3 step o) is carried out.

4 9. The method as defined in claim 8; further comprising the steps  
5 of:

6 q) determining if the credit card holder is not a student  
7 who has a name and who attends a school with a tuition,  
8 if step p) is carried out;

9 r) proceeding to step t), if answer to step q) is no; and

10 s) putting, by the at least one of the program vendor and  
11 the credit card issuer, the name of the student on the  
12 check, if answer to step q) is yes.

13 10. The method as defined in claim 9; further comprising the steps  
14 of:

15 t) determining if there is a problem getting the check to  
16 the school;

17 u) sending, by the at least one of the program vendor and  
18 the credit card issuer, the check directly to the credit  
19 card holder, if answer to step t) is yes; and

20 v) forwarding, by the credit card holder, the check to the  
21 school, if step u) is carried out.

22 11. The method as defined in claim 10; further comprising the  
23 steps of:

- 1 w) sending, by the at least one of the program vendor and  
2 the credit card issuer, the check directly to the school,  
3 if the answer to step t) is no;  
4 x) confirming, by the at least one of the program vendor and  
5 the credit card issuer, to the credit card holder, that  
6 the check has been sent out so as to form a confirmation,  
7 if step w) is carried out; and  
8 y) crediting, by the school, the check towards the tuition  
9 of the student.

10 12. The method as defined in claim 11; further comprising the  
11 steps of:

- 12 z) calling, by the credit card holder, the at least one of  
13 the program vendor and the credit card issuer so as to  
14 form a call, if answer to step 11) is no; and  
15 aa) determining if the call is made within a predetermined  
16 time, if step z) is carried out.

17 13. The method as defined in claim 12; further comprising the  
18 steps of:

- 19 bb) requesting, by the credit card holder, redemption of the  
20 points accumulated, from the at least one of the program  
21 vendor and the credit card issuer, if answer to step aa)  
22 is yes; and  
23 cc) returning to step w), if step bb) is carried out.

- 1 14. The method as defined in claim 13; further comprising the step  
2 of:  
3 dd) forfeiting automatically, the points accumulated, to the  
4 at least one of the program vendor and the credit card  
5 issuer, if answer to step aa) is no.
- 6 15. The method as defined in claim 1; further comprising the step  
7 of keeping, by the at least one of the program vendor and the  
8 credit card issuer, the set interest for cost of operations.
- 9 16. The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said step of paying  
10 out, by a credit card issuer, as per an agreement between the  
11 credit card issuer and a program vendor, a percentage of  
12 credit card sales at a predetermined period, to the program  
13 vender includes paying out, by a credit card issuer, as per an  
14 agreement between the credit card issuer and a program vendor,  
15 a percentage of credit card sales at a predetermined period  
16 being one of monthly and quarterly, to the program vender.
- 17 17. The method as defined in claim 6, wherein said step of  
18 checking, by the credit card holder, the account balance  
19 includes checking, by the credit card holder, the account  
20 balance, by one of telephone and Internet.
- 21 18. The method as defined in claim 11, wherein said step of  
22 sending, by the at least one of the program vendor and the

1 credit card issuer, the check directly to the school includes  
2 sending, by the at least one of the program vendor and the  
3 credit card issuer, the check directly to the school that  
4 receives a distinct code number.

5 19. The method as defined in claim 11, wherein said step of  
6 confirming, by the at least one of the program vendor and the  
7 credit card issuer, to the credit card holder, that the check  
8 has been sent out so as to form a confirmation includes  
9 confirming, by the at least one of the program vendor and the  
10 credit card issuer, by one of mail, e-mail, and the telephone,  
11 to the credit card holder, that the check has been sent out so  
12 as to form a confirmation.

13 20. The method as defined in claim 12, wherein said step of  
14 calling, by the credit card holder, the at least one of the  
15 program vendor and the credit card issuer so as to form a  
16 call, includes calling, by the credit card holder, the at  
17 least one of the program vendor and the credit card issuer, by  
18 one of automated telephone and the Internet so as to form a  
19 call.